



# The UUCC Chronicle

July 2023

## **SERVICES: Sun., 10:00 a.m.**

Access codes are available at <https://uucookeville.org/2020/06/10/new-virtual-service-meeting-information/>

Past service recordings at <https://uucookeville.org/worship/past-worship-services/>

### **July 2**

“One Man’s Search for Understanding, and How He Found It”

Bob Harwood

### **July 9**

“GA Report”

Deanna Lack, CLM

### **July 16**

“Naming Our Unceded Land”

Deanna Lack, CLM

### **July 23**

“Revisiting Vision”

Deanna Lack, CLM

July 30

“Biodiversity”

Amanda Rosenberger

### **Reflections:**

#### **Sundays, 11:00 a.m.**

Reflections is an informal, non-judgmental, small-group discussion of the sermon topic. Participants share thoughts and insights or just listen. All are welcome.

### **Fair Trade:**

#### **Sundays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

<https://uucookeville.org/2020/05/22/fair-trade-table-curb-side-pickup/>

Facilitator: Janie Finch

## **JULY’S GUEST SPEAKERS**

(By: Ric Finch) Bob Harwood got his undergraduate degree in geology at the Univ. of Florida but went on to study architecture and became an architect/home builder here in Cookeville -- a builder of well designed, innovative, and environmentally sensitive homes. Bob is like most UUs: a seeker. But more than most of us, Bob sought insight into life's mysteries and truths with real persistence and dedication. In his own words:

"I became consumed with a wide range of existential questions at the age of 20 but didn't find a single answer to any of those questions until after I started meditating at the age of 40. During the following 15 years I went on silent meditation retreats with Buddhists, Christians, and Hindus. During that time all of my questions got answered, and my final question was resolved in 1999 when "the little guy in the head" -- the sense of personal selfhood -- vanished, and I finally understood what it is that sees, hears, feels, or thinks."

On Sun., July 2, Bob will share with us some of his experiences and revelations with a service entitled “One Man’s Search for Understanding, and How He Found It.” (No photo available.)

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION OF COOKEVILLE  
31 West First Street, Cookeville TN 38501**

**Deanna Lack, UUA Commissioned Lay Minister  
Norma Scarlett, Board President**



Dr. Amanda Rosenberger (July 30)  
 “Biodiversity”

Amanda is an Associate Professor, Assistant Unity Leader, TN Cooperative Fishery Research Unit in the Department of Biology at TTU. She is a fisheries biologist whose research interests are in the ecology and conservation of freshwater biota, including fish, mussels, and crayfish, with an emphasis on the role of ecological processes in shaping aquatic organisms’ distributions, population characteristics, and community structure.

Statements made and opinions expressed by the authors of articles published in the *UUCC Chronicle* are solely the authors' and do not necessarily reflect the opinions and beliefs of the UUCC or its congregants. The *UUCC Chronicle* is published the first of each month. Please report any corrections to Susie Zuller, editor.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UUCC ACTIVITIES

Editor’s Note: Below are listed the meetings and events for July. The editor strives to be as up-to-date as possible; however, changes may occur. If you plan to attend, please verify the date and time with the facilitator of the event. All are welcome to attend. You may also find events listed at <https://uucookeville.org/events/>

### Board Meeting:

The new 2023-2024 Board will hold its annual retreat on Sat., July 8. No regular monthly meeting scheduled.

Facilitator: Norma Scarlett

### Compassionate Communication (In-person at UUCC):

Wed., July 5, 6:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Deanna Lack, CLM

### Meditation (In person at UUCC):

Wed., July 12, 6:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Deanna Lack, CLM

### Building Your Own Theology (In person at UUCC):

Wed., July 19, 6:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Deanna Lack, CLM

### Meditation (In person at UUCC):

Wed., July 26, 6:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Acharya Abhaya Darpana

Prison Ministry/CMAC  
 July meeting canceled.

Children’s RE Program (At UUCC):  
Sun., July 2 and 16, 9:00 a.m.  
Facilitator: Kathleen Rozanski

Safe, Affordable, Good Energy for  
Tennessee (SAGE) and (Statewide  
Organizing for Community eMpowerment  
SOCM) meet concurrently.  
(At UUCC):  
Mon., July 3, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Facilitator: Richard Shaffer

Newsletter Deadline (Encouraged):  
Tues., July 28  
Email submissions to Susie Zuller

Adopt-a-Road Litter Pick-up  
2991 Highlands Park Blvd., Cookeville  
Sat., July 15, 9:00 a.m.  
Facilitator: Susie Zuller

Fourth-Sunday-of-the-Month Potluck  
(At UUCC):  
Sun., July 30  
Facilitators: Everybody!

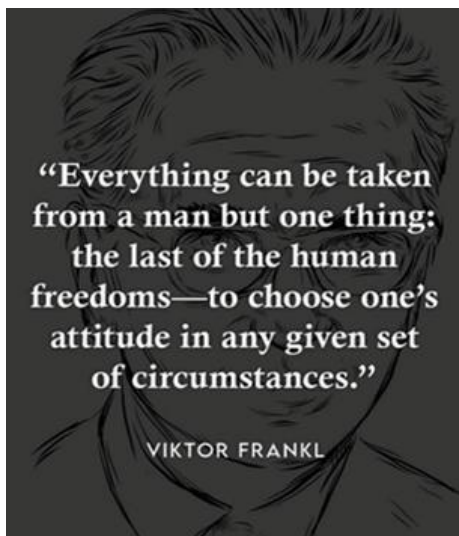


## SHARE-THE-PLATE 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY

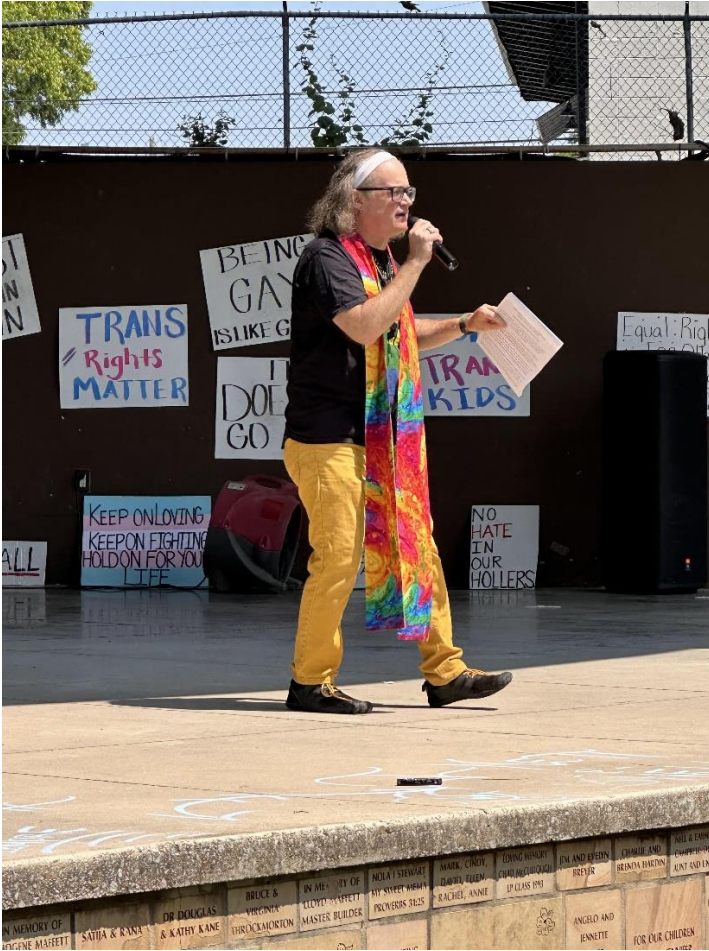
When months have five Sundays, UUCC has a special share-the-plate collection that goes to the Cookeville Mutual Aid Collective (CMAC).

July’s fifth Sunday is the 30<sup>th</sup>. During the offertory on July 30, you may place any donation you wish to give to CMAC within a specially marked envelope. Of course, you may donate to CMAC at any time. The fifth Sunday share-the-plate collection is UUCC’s special way of giving to a very needy community.

For further information about CMAC’s mission, please talk with either Andrew or Deanna.







indigenous stewards of this land both past and present.

I want to begin by asking us, including people of faith and people of no faith, to inhale deeply and invite your higher power or your inner power into this moment. We call on the God of your understanding, the Great Spirit, the Spirit of the Universe, the Creator, the Mother Goddess and the Father God, your understanding of Christ and Buddha, God sometimes called Yahweh or Allah or Krishna.

We call on the spirits of this place, this specific place, calling on the energies of the four directions and four sacred elements, earth water fire and air, held together by the fifth sacred thing, the spirit, sometimes called the Holy Spirit, breathing their queer Pentecost and Full Moon and solstice wind throughout this place and space.

Now I want this invocation to be as inclusive and interfaith as possible, but you can also call on all the names that I might be leaving out. We also need to include people of no faith, people of honest intellectual inquiry and the greatest goods that secular humanism has to offer our culture. We call on a nonbinary God that is beyond gender and has many genders, a God who is fluid, cis, ace, pan, and trans, a God who is married and celibate and partnered and single.

This God has pronouns like They and Them, but also, We and Ours. This God is Love, and we know that Love is Love but Love also means solidarity and support and standing up against any who might erase us.

**INTERSPIRITUAL INVOCATION  
AND CALL TO ACTION -  
OPENING FOR  
UPPER CUMBERLAND PRIDE,  
3 JUNE 2023,  
DOGWOOD PARK**  
By: Andrew (Sunfrog) Smith

Good morning beautiful people! We are still here!

Land Acknowledgment: Today we are meeting in Cookeville, TN, on the land of the Cherokee people and the Yuchi tribe, also used or occupied by the Shawnee, Chickasaw, and Muscogee Creek people. We would like to acknowledge the

God is love, and we are way past done letting powerful people speak in God's name who have no love for us in their hearts. So, we call on God to bless and protect us today, that our gathering will be safe and peaceful and protected from harm.

Now, as you know, Cookeville has been under attack from fascists from afar and from bigots within our own community, and we are tired. But we are still here. I have lost count of how many friends and siblings and collaborators have fled the beautiful hills and hollers and mountains and rivers of Tennessee for places that do not want to kill us.

If we are here, we are refugees in our own homes. Yes, we are tired. We are exhausted. We are traumatized. But we are still here. We are still here, and we are queer in our politics if we are allies and accomplices, and we are queer in our bodies if we are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, two spirit, and in all the new vocabularies that we are still learning.

We are here, even after these last several months of attack after attack, hateful law after hateful law, with our particular forms of local fascism that are homophobia, transphobia, and we must name it, Christian nationalism.

But no matter how much the haters hate, we are here for love. We love our siblings. In public. Out loud. Proud.

We are here. We cannot say we have no fear, because we live in the reality that we do have fear. But we showed up today

anyway. We refuse to accept that doom or gloom as our destiny, as we make room for a bigger table and a bigger tent, to build a truly intersectional and intergenerational movement to change everything, to create a better world for everyone.

Today we celebrate the clear and fierce opinion of a federal judge that the Tennessee drag ban was absolutely and unequivocally unfair and unconstitutional.

But we also learned over these last months that our true community and unashamed celebrations do not ask the permission of courts or churches or schools or legislators. We do not ask them for permission to exist. Our power comes from this beautiful rainbow community.

We are here today because Stonewall, because all of our queer ancestors who went before us including the late poet Allen Ginsberg whose birthday is today, who said in 1956 "I'm putting my queer shoulder to the wheel."

So come on Cookeville, show us your fabulous faces and glorious glitter because we lead with rainbows and unicorns and dancing and love and unity today for the celebration that we are still here and accepting the reality that if we want to stay here, we need to get involved, we need to organize, and we need to fight. And we fight with love!



## NO TVA PIPELINE

By: Richard Shaffer

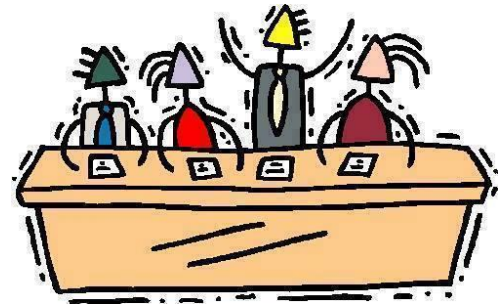
Your voice matters and can push TVA to make a decision that considers the environmental, social, and cultural impacts of building a methane gas plant and pipeline. This is not a done deal.

The comment period for the Kingston DEIS will be open from May 19th - July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. You may submit comments online at <https://tvaforms.wufoo.com/form/m16eblra098iq62/>, by email at [nepa@tva.gov](mailto:nepa@tva.gov), or by mail at:

1101 Market Street, BR 2C-C  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Please reach out to us to find out other ways to get involved.

[sagetennessee@gmail.com](mailto:sagetennessee@gmail.com)



## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Carol Fleetwood, Secretary

The Board finalized the slate of proposed officers for the 2023-2024 UUCC Board of Directors. They are Norma for president, Cassandra for president-elect, Sandra for treasurer, Carol for secretary, Kathleen and Richard for members-at-large. One member-at-large position is vacant. Announcement and vote to accept all positions by church members occurred June 19 after Sunday services.

In other business, the Board discussed renewing UUCC's tax-exempt status, making masking while singing only a personal choice, and establishing a donation box for the piano moving and maintenance. Ric volunteered to repair the hole behind the refrigerator. Janie volunteered to temporarily continue the free trade project. Ric said he contacted the *Herald-Citizen* to have UUCC's Sunday services placed in their Saturday listing of local church services.

### Treasury Report

May 2023	Jan. – May 2023
Income: \$1,843	Income: \$13,037
Expenses: \$911	Total Expenses: \$11,364

Additional Income:

Part of the total income for 2023 comes from use of our building by other groups (\$550), the Kroger Community Rewards Program (\$108), the Amazon Smile Program (\$116), and the Fair-Trade Project (\$347 returned on \$259 in supplies). If you have any questions about these programs, please talk to any board member or consult the web page.

Stewardship:

Although 2023 promised to be a challenging year for our budgeted obligations, everyone has tried hard to meet pledge commitments. After 5 months of the year, 46% of the pledges have been redeemed. YEAH Team!

**HAVE I GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!**

By Sandra Jordan

Do you have items lying around your house that you never use? Would you like to make room for something you will use? Here's an opportunity to declutter and contribute to the finances of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cookeville at the same time – a winning proposition all around.

We need to supplement our budget, so we are conducting an auction where donated items can be put up for bids on the BetterWorld website we used to raffle off the San Antonio vacation earlier this year. You'll find a link on the UUCC website or you can go directly to <https://unitarianuniversalistcongregat.betterworld.org/auctions/uucc-spring-auction>.

There you'll be able to create your own account (or sign on if you already have one) and post a listing for your item. You can also include a picture if you have one. Or if you are donating a service, you can describe it so viewers can bid on it. Once published for sale, bring your items to me or Susie Zuller, and we'll arrange to store them until delivered to the buyer. If you don't want to post your own items, bring them and their info to me and I will list them. The site will be closed for donations July 31st. Bids will open August 1st and close August 31st. There will be a date designated in September for general distribution of all items. Individual arrangements will also be available if you'd like me to meet you somewhere in the Cookeville area with your purchase.

You can contact me directly at [uucctreasurerjlc@gmail.com](mailto:uucctreasurerjlc@gmail.com).



## WHAT'S IT LIKE TO GO TO G.A.?

By Deanna Lack, CLM

I'm newly home from my first in-person UUA General Assembly. Kathleen and I stayed with three of my fellow Commissioned Lay Ministers in an Air B&B and took an Uber to the convention each day, and I'm so glad we did it that way. It gave us more time to hang out and chat and share resources.

Not many of us at UUCS have been to GA in person, so I thought I'd talk a bit about what it's like to go, to serve as a delegate, and attend the worship services, special events, and workshops. I hope that in future years we can have several of us go from UUCS together. I'll be talking more at next week's service (7/9) about the important business that happened this year, so don't miss that!

Sessions started on the late side, 10 or 11 a.m., so that people on the west side could attend live at a reasonable hour. Wednesday night kicks everything off with a parade of banners of the congregations, schools, and affiliated organizations. I decided not to bring our banner this year because I would have had to check it as luggage, and I wasn't sure I would get there in time for the banner parade. But our banner was on the virtual banner parade and it's always fun to see it.

Each day, including Wednesday, has a General Session for business. Delegates are required to attend these, and they can get tedious for some people, but I always find them fascinating. Non-delegates are welcome to attend. I think it's a snapshot of

what's important to UU's across the country, and I think it's really important for our tiny and rather isolated congregation to feel plugged in to the larger UU community. This year we considered some important business: we elected a new president, voted on the new Article II proposal amendments and whether to keep going with it, considered a business resolution to divest from fossil fuels and pay reparations, and admitted three Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW's) on Cop City in Atlanta, Supporting the Dreamers, and Organizing for Health Equity. If you want to hear more about how that went, come next Sunday!

Each day also included workshops in person. To be honest, I was a little disappointed with the workshops this year. They were too big, too few options, and there wasn't a lot of interactive element to them. However, there is a HUGE library of on-demand workshop content that I will have access to until September, with some really exciting topics, so I'm looking forward to diving into that while I'm on summer break. Everyone who registers for GA can access all that great content any time they want to (including the on-demand workshop I did with my CLMs!).

The days are long; they started at 10 or 11 a.m. and went to 9 p.m. on the middle days, with half days on either end. But they are jam packed with fellowship and learning and networking. Later in the assembly I discovered that there were meet-ups for interest groups, which functioned more like small groups on a topic or like I would have hoped the workshops were, getting together and brainstorming. Kathleen and I went to a meetup based on my friend Marianne's



workshop entitled “Building a Multiplatform Community of Communities,” which was about using Zoom to network with other congregations to lessen the work we are doing and increase the kinds of engagement we can have. I LOVE this idea!

I spoke at a rally sponsored by Side With Love, sharing a stage with President Susan Frederick-Gray and incoming President Sofia Betancourt (they are both so awesome!). I was asked to share a little bit about what our congregation does with prison ministry, and I talked about abolition. It was great!

### PHOTOS FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

By Kathleen Rozanski  
and Deanna Lack, CLM



I am fangirling because I shared a stage with UUA Pres Susan Frederick Gray and future Pres Sophia Betancourt (in Pittsburgh). I was asked to speak about abolition at a Side With Love Rally at General Assembly. What an honor!



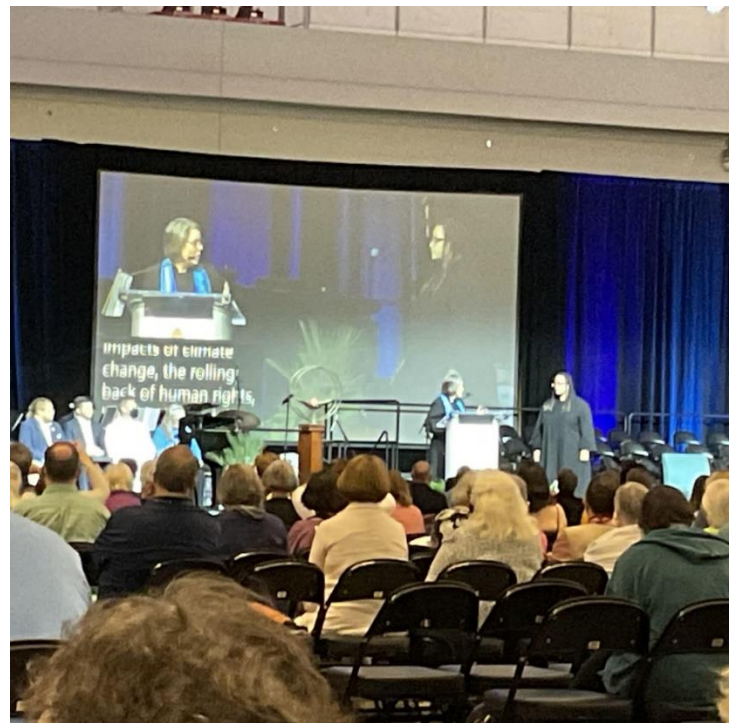
Me, Kathleen, Morgan (CLM) and Kathy (CLM) outside the convention center on the Allegheny River



Kathleen and I with Marianne Jew (another CLM, also the person who did the Multiplatform workshop) at an awesome Thai restaurant.



Rev. Dr. Sofía Betancourt at the Side With Love rally. She has an amazing presence, I love her.



Historic moment: our first woman UUA president gives her blessing to our first woman of color president.



## UUCS MOVIE NIGHT for JULY: “HIGH NOON”

By Ric Finch

Western Movies were very popular when I was a boy (40s & 50s); we kids called them “Cowboy Movies”. How popular were they? Well, around 7000 Westerns were filmed in the 20th century. Mostly they were “B” movies with stock characters (good guys in white hats, bad guys in black hats) and pretty simple plots. But there were also a handful of truly great Western Movies, and, IMHO, the greatest of them all was “High Noon”.

“High Noon” starred Gary Cooper, whose career was fading but was revived by his Oscar-winning performance as Marshal Will Kane. Grace Kelly played Kane’s wife and the role put her on the road to stardom. The movie also features a very young Lloyd Bridges, Mexican movie star Katy Jurado, Sheb Wooley, Lon Chaney, Jr., Thomas Mitchell (Scarlet O’Hara’s father in “Gone with the Wind”), Henry Morgan and other well known Hollywood characters.

“High Noon” was directed by Fred Zinnemann, produced by Stanley Kramer, and featured a screenplay by Carl Foreman. It was not originally expected to be a special film. It was filmed on such a tight budget that they couldn’t afford color film! But the B & W format proved to be just right for the tight moralistic script by Foreman. The script was politically controversial in a time when the feared House Unamerican Activities Committee (HUAC) was investigating Communist influence in Hollywood. Foreman, who in fact had once been a member of the Communist Party,

intended his screenplay to be an allegory in which the bad guys represent HUAC, and the cowardly townspeople represent the Hollywood characters who failed to support the actors and writers under attack by HUAC. In fact, during the filming of the movie Foreman was summoned to testify before HUAC, where he refused to give HUAC any names; he was later blacklisted for his refusal to cooperate.

“High Noon” is a tense drama filmed in real time: the story begins with Marshal Will Kane getting married at 10:30 AM and runs some 90 minutes to its shoot out climax at noon. It turned out to be a critical success, was nominated for seven Oscars and won four. It also won four Golden Globe Awards. In 1989 “High Noon” was selected by the Library of Congress as one of the first 25 films to be preserved in the U.S. National Film Registry for being “culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant”. But this critical acclaim was certainly not unanimous at the time of the film’s release in 1952. Various proponents of Western movies criticized the film as not a “proper” Western, at least in part because the film’s hero (Kane/Cooper) showed his real fear of dying as he prepared to confront a gang of killers alone. Horror of horrors, one of the bad guys meets death by being shot in the back. And there was no fancy shooting and pistol twirling. There aren’t even any big sky dramatic western scenery shots. John Wayne called the film “the most un-American thing I’ve seen in my whole life.”

Today “High Noon” is deservedly recognized as a true classic. So, come see for yourself this great understated Western film, a story with a lasting moral message

when taken at face value....and a doubly complex story when its historic underlying political subtheme is taken into consideration.

For more info, visit:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High\\_Noon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_Noon)

---Ric Finch

SHOWING DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AFTER JULY FOURTH.



## ADOPT-A-ROAD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

By: Susie Zuller

The next litter pick-up is Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. The inclement weather date is Saturday, July 29.

Meet in the parking lot of Ficoso, 2991 Highlands Park Blvd., Cookeville. We gather garbage along the one-mile stretch of Highlands Park Blvd. west to the roundabout at Venture Dr. and south to Volunteer.

Rob Wright, Executive Director for the Clean Commission, shared, “All supplies needed for the cleanups will be provided by the Clean Commission including bags, litter grabbers, and safety jackets.”

If you have any questions at all about the cleaning, please contact Susie. For further information on Adopt-A-Road here in Putnam County, please see <https://www.cleancommission.com/adopt-a-road>. Let’s go for putting our faith into action.

**NO TVA PIPELINE**  
PRESENTED BY SAGE TN

- Presentations on clean energy and sustainability
- Workshops on how to submit comments and get your voice heard by the TVAA
- Short films
- Refreshments and amenities on site

**WHEN**  
July 6th  
From 9 am to 2 pm

**WHERE**  
Leslie Town Center  
1 W 1st St, Cookeville, TN 38501

Follow us on Instagram for more details  
[www.instagram.com/sage\\_tn](https://www.instagram.com/sage_tn)